

Application No.: 10/773,252
Atty. Docket No.: 54525.000105

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REMARKS

At the time of the Office Action ("Action"), claims 1-35 were pending in the application. The Action rejected claims 1-8, 10-21, 24-32 and 35, and objected to claims 9, 22, 23, 33, and 34 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Applicants have amended claims 1, 8, 10, 13, 14, 21, 23, 26, 32 and 34, and cancelled claims 9, 22 and 33. Claims 1-8, 10-21, 23-32, 34 and 35 remain pending in the application.

Allowable Subject Matter

On pages 12-13, the Action states that claims 9, 22, 23, 33 and 34 contain allowable subject matter. Specifically, for each of these claims, the Action states that the art of record, considered as a whole, alone or in combination, does not anticipate or render obvious the features recited in these claims.

Accordingly, Applicants have amended independent claim 1 to recite the features included in claim 9, amended independent claim 10 to recite the features included in claim 9, amended independent claim 14 to recite the features included in claim 22, and amended independent claim 26 to recite the features included in claim 33. These amendments to independent claims 1, 10, 14 and 26 are believed to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b) and 103(a) on pages 2-12 of the Action. Claims 2-8, 11-13, 15-21, 23-25, 27-32, 34 and 35 depend from claims 1, 10, 14 and 26 respectively and are allowable for at least the reasons that claims 1, 10, 14 and 26 are allowable.

Applicants note that the above amendments are made to place the pending claims in condition for allowance and are based on the allowable subject matter identified in the Action. Because the amended claims are based on subject matter that the Examiner has indicated as allowable, Applicants do not believe that these amendments require additional search and/or consideration, and Applicants request entry of these amendments after final.

Applicants submit that claims 1-8, 10-21, 23-32, 34, and 35 are in condition for allowance, and timely allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

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Applicants believe that all of the rejections in the Office Action have been addressed by the amendments and remarks above. If there are any questions concerning this Response, Applicants would welcome a telephone call or interview with the undersigned Applicants' representative.

No fees are believed to be required. If the Office, however, believes that any additional required fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to debit those fees from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-0206.

Respectfully submitted,

HUNTON & WILLIAMS

Dated: 20 Apr 2006

By:


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